deficit has been formulated in such a manner that it does not affect subsidies directed towards the poor.

Irregularities in the Branches of State Bank of Indore

2359. SHRI RAM BADAN : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether several cases of irregularities have been detected in the transactions of the State Bank of Indore branches at Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Kota, Jaipur and Indore since April, 1988;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether facilities have been granted to the firms/companies through letters of credit and discounted bogus bills etc.;

(d) if so, the details of the recovery of amount advanced against such loan during April, 1988 to June 30, 1991; and

(e) the action taken by the Bank against the guilty officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India has reported that they do not maintain branch-wise details of irregularities in banks. However, RBI has noticed in December, 1989 certain irregularities committed by an officer in the Palsikar Colony branch, Cloth Market branch and P.Y. Road branches of State Bank of Indore at Indore. State Bank of Indore has also reported to RBI in June, 1991 irregularities in one of the group accounts at the bank's Tilak Road, Ahmedabad branch.

(d) State Bank of Indore has informed RBI that out of 85 sticky accounts in Palsikar Colony branch, suits have been filed against 74 borrowers. Out of 74 suits filed, decrees have been awarded in 36 cases. In the case of Tilak Road, Ahmedabad branch bank has closely followed up the matter for repayment of dues.

(e) The officer of Indore (Palsika Colony) branch was fined by Custom Department for backdating letters of credit. Bank has initiated disciplinary action against the concerned officer. In the case of Tilak Road branch at Ahmedabad the bank has taken measure to initiate appropriate action against the concerned officers.

64 Orissa

Mechanisation of Coal Handling at Paradeep Port

2360. SHRI ANBARASU ERA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal for introduction of mechanisation of coal handling facilities at Paradeep Port;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have approved the proposal; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JADGISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal envisages construction of 2 mechanised coal berths and ancillary facilities at Paradeep Port.

(c) and (d) The proposal requires investment decision by the Government and the same is under process.

64 Government Service

Promotion to Employees stagnating at Maximum of Pay Scales

2361. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to give at least one promotion to those employees who are stagnating at the maximum of their pay scales for the last one year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the categories of employees which are likely to be benefited ?